A REMONSTRANCE OF Many hundreds of Wel-affected People in the county of Hertford,

OR,

The Case rightly stated,

BETWEEN

William Hickman late Treasurer of the county afore said, *John Woodward*, and others their Agents and Emissaries and the Honest partie of that Countie; who Petitioning against their evil practises, were summoned before the Honorable Commissioners appointed by Order of Parliament.

Who upon examination, finding them as corrupt in their trust as uncivil in their carriages towards the people; honorably turned them out of their places: the County desiring Capt. *Rock* of *Watford* (an Assertor of his Countreys good) to nominate another Treasurer that was an honest responsible man, which (with approbation of the Honorable Commissioners) was happily effected, to the great joy of all the whole County.

With a Caveat to all neighbor Counties to be carefull, that they be not abused in the same kinde.

London, Printed in the year, 1654.

A REMONSTRANCE OF Divers of the County of *Hertford*.

HOneſt *Countrey men*, we are not inſenſible but, as good Governors, and juſt and upright men in Office Place of Truſt, are not only the Foundation, but the ops and pillars of a Common-wealth: ſo the contrarie, corrupt men are put in Office or Truſt, Men ſelf-ſeekers, vetous, contentious, diſhoneſt, or uncivil in their charge, r carriage towards the People: upon juſt complaint to the uperiors or Superior Governor, ſuch rotten props doubtſs ought to be removed, and firmer ſet in their places, leſt he whole Fabrick ſuffer by fault of one ſuch corrupt Memer, or as Members infected with the Leproſie, Plague ſores, nd botches of a Commonwealth (if incurable) to be reoved and ſeparate from the reſt of their brethren, leſt their nfection ſpread, and others are damnifi d and deſtroyed hereby; as Mr. *Hickman* well deſerved to be removed from hat Truſt was impoſed on him by his Country; if you ſhall conſider theſe following obſervations.

I. Conſidering the ſaid *Hickman* by his long continuance might

might well contract much corruption or ruſt, eſpecia
being formerly ſo well skil'd in the *Gentle-Craft*, he mi
have the wit to mend one, though not the honeſty to do ri
to many; conſidering how *Kingly* a Tutor he had alway
his elbow, to inſtruct him and his Son in Law *Woodward*
abuſe and terrifie many honeſt and peaceable inhabitants
this County, prompting both him and his Emiſſaries to co
and menace People at their own doors, *for pretended Arre*
upon Aſeſsments; *when thoſe very people could ſhew diſch*
ges in full under Mr. Hickmans *own hand, for the ſame T*
which had been paid by them long before. What *Ends* Maſ
Hickman and his Son had in this, I know not, but ſure it w
beyond his *Laſt*, or to new load the People with more bu
dens then they could well bear: by the length of this *Fo*
you may well gueſs at the Monſtrouſneſs of the *Body*, a
that Mr. *Hickman* took a delight to vex and torment t
Country at his pleaſure; as ſometimes forcing the Co
lectors of the ſeveral Town and places, to make many u
neceſſary and chargeable journeys to pay their Moneys in
the Treaſury, under pretence his Son *Woodward* was at *Lo*
don, and ſo the buſineſs could not be compleated: and m
ny other Tricks, fetches, waies, and practiſes he hath had fro
time to time to abuſe the Country, to their great trouble a
diſcouragement; ſome of which we ſhall only hint at, th
all rational people may conceive that it was not envie or m
lice that made the Countie Petition againſt him; but mu
reaſon and good cauſe for it; as you may be pleaſed to ta
notice by his corrupt practiſes; for when clipt monie ha
been offered to him, on condition the parties would but tra
with him for Commodities, their clipt monie would the
paſs with him for currant, otherwiſe not.

II. The Countie having been allowed monies towards t
payment of their *Free Quarter*, and for the years 44, 45, 4

d 48. Hickman confeſſeth 5600. odd pounds, hich they are to pay us: which the ſaid Hickman th had a long time in his hands, and converted to s own uſe, and being now found out, the honeſt entleman demands but 2.s. in the pound (beſides e uſe of it all this while) for paying of it out; hich the conſcionable Treaſurer doth well deſerve r his great care in keeping it ſo ſafe from being ſtroyed, or eaten up with Rats and Mice, to pre- nt which, he wiſely laid out the ſame in Pitch, Tar, oles and Iron, which the diſcreet Catterpiller, well new his fellow Vermin would never venter upon. ut put the caſe 2.s. in the pound ſhould be allowed em by order, ſurely thoſe that granted the ſame them, were good Houſe-keepers of their own oods, elſe they could never have been ſo liberal of her mens: And without doubt, thoſe that vvill lame other folks for asking their ovvn, vvill beat e hungry from their doors that ask any thing of eirs; the Common-vvealth having ſo great a com- odity of ſuch perſons, that it vvould not be much miſs for them to truſt them vvith 18.s. in the pound nd keep the other 2. s. in the pound to preſerve emſelves and families in times of neceſsity. We vill not ſay, That 2.s. is kept from us by robbery, or can vve ſay, you keep it from us juſtly, vvhich

argues

argues, you keep it falſly, which we cannot but deem a great infamy.

III. He ſends for divers people to bring in monies which hath been deſtrained for, and paid which fines were 40.s. a piece for diſtreſſes, 8. or 9. years ago, with many other abuſes, as was made appear before the Honourable Commiſſioners.

The County groaning under theſe unſufferable abuſes, and the heavy burden of a perpetual Treaſurer and having none that would or durſt tell him, and his Emiſſaries of their faults, ſave only one, who neither feared them, nor ever favored their falſhood, namely, that ever to be eſteemed Gentleman by his Country, Captain AMBROSE ROCK, who ſcorned either for favor or affection, to fawn, flatter, or ſooth them up in their evil and pernicious practiſes; but with a loathing to their ways; and a true and hearty zeal and love to his Countreys welfare, he eſteeming equity & honeſty before ſelf-ends, or any private intereſts, hath often openly rebuked them, and told them of their faults, as he did at Hatfield June 24. 1654. which gave ſuch content to the whole County, that unanimo ſly they made choice of the ſaid Captain ROCK (who never thought his labor ill beſtowed, nor his money or blood ill ſpent for the good of his Country) to preſent a Petition

in the behalf of all the aggrieved to the Honorable Commissioners appointed by Ordinance of Parliament for that county: which Petition he soon provided, and was offered the hands of most of the county for turning him out of Office: the said Petition, with hands to it, being prepared for redress of our Agrievances, was with an undaunted alacrity delivered to the commissioners by the said captain Rock, who neither feared KING, nor Keysar, Treasurer or Agent so long as he knew himself as faithful to the State as to his country; which Petition was received by the commissioners with great civility: who desiring the said ROCK, & others the aggieved people, that presented it, to withdraw, whilest their Honors had debated the business, which being soon done: they honorably satisfied the counties desires, calling in the said ROCK, and declared to him, *That the Desires of the Country were fulfilled*, and withall wished him to nominate a new Treasurer, which soon he did, pitching upon one Mr. Thomas Cowley of St. Albons, and told those Gentlemen, that the said Cowley had formerly been Treasurer for the county, & had always given them great content and satisfaction by his honest and civil carriage, and rendred the county a just account of his trust, which from the said Hickman could never yet be obtained,

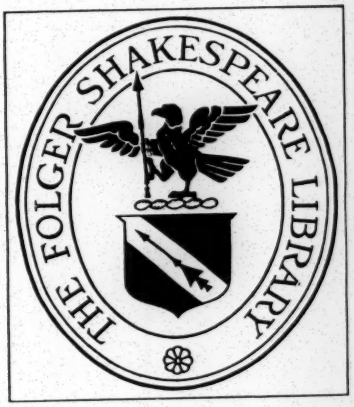
since

ſince which the county had groaned under the heavy burden of a perpetual Treaſurer, and would with all alacrity and cheerfulneſs of mind rather pay their Aſſeſſments to him they loved then to him who was generally hated by all good men: upon theſe conſiderations, Mr. Couley was choſen Treaſurer, and Hickman turned out: no man but being glad ſo good a man was choſen Treaſurer, and ſo evil a man turned out of office: only Hickmans ſon in Law (John Woodward) who had been his Clerk, and as very a K. as his Father, underſtanding of the buſineſs, applyed himſelf to the commiſſioners, and made to them a learned Speech in behalf of his Father and himſelf (as being very loth to leave their old trade) deſiring them, *That they might not be put out as the ſnuff of a Candle*: which learned Speech being preſently caught up in a whirlwind, was carried to St. Albons: which the very Boys no ſooner heard, but they replyed, they loved them ſo well, that though they went ſtinking out, rather then they ſhould want light they would light them out of their places with Bonefires, and ring them out too with the Bells of St. Albons: and indeed they were boys of their Words, moſt willingly performing the ſame for the manifold curteſies the ſaid Hickman and his ſon Woodward had done their friends and country-

country-men, and it is thought the boys will go neer to choose the Father Burgess of St. Albons, now he is out of his old Office, and the Son may go again to School, to learn to be an honest and just accountant, and have the deducting as well as additional part, and so return to help his father in the multiplicity of his Accounts.

And so we conclude, desiring they may finde the right way to their deserved place: and all other Countries may be carefull in expelling such pestiferous Caterpillers, and choose just and honest men in their places, that may perform their duty to the Commonwealth, according to Right, and no otherwise, without abusing any inferior member of the same by unjust claims or exactions as this man and his abettors did: he not only by his base actions wronging others, but himself also: by putting his body out of frame, dulling his wit, quenching his memory, making his friends his foes, neighbors forsake him, the wise shun him, the godly to abhor him, most men to disdain him, the boys to mock him, none to regard him, God to forsake him, and the Devil to take him.

FINIS.

F184667

R992.5